

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12107 180736Z

21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 EUR-12 /100 W

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P R 180657Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7782

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

US MISSION GENEVA 1448

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DEPARTMENT PASS STR FOR AMBASSADOR DENT FROM SMITH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, TH

SUBJECT: THAILAND VIEWS ON MFA RENEWAL

1. DURING MEETING OF US AND THAI TEXTILE DELEGATIONS ON AUGUST 16, 1976, U.S. DEL CHAIRMAN SMITH PRESENTED US POSITION IN SUPPORT OF RENEWAL OF MFA WITHOUT CHANGE.

2. SUTHEE NATVARATA (DIRECTOR GENERAL OF BUREAU OF FOREIGN TRADE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE) RESPONDED BY NOTING THAT THAIS WERE NEW TO THE TEXTILE EXPORT FIELD AS WELL AS NEW ADHERENTS TO MFA; IT WAS THEREFORE NOT YET POSSIBLE FOR THAILAND TO MEASURE ANY BENEFITS IT HAD RECEIVED FROM THE MFA. THE ONLY DECISIONS WHICH THE RTG HAD YET MADE WERE (A) TO SEEK TO INCREASE THAI SHAR OF WORLD TEXTILE EXPORT MARKET AND (B) TO BE CERTAIN OF THEIR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER ANY RENEWED MFA. THIS LATTER DECISION STEMMED FROM THE RECENT AUSTRALIA-PHILIPPINE DISPUTE ON UNILATERALLY IMPOSED AUSTRALIAN TARIFF QUOTAS. MAJOR FACTOR IN THE THAI DECISION PROCESS WILL BE LARELY BASED ON THE RESULTS OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH IMPORTING COUN-

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 12107 180736Z

TRIES; NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EC ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN

IN EARLY OCTOBER. SUTHEE CONCLUDED BY COMMENTING THAT IF THEIR EC NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE CONDUCTED WITH THE EC SHOWING ADAPTABILITY AND SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING THAT HAD CHARACTERIZED JUST CONCLUDED US-THAI NEGOTIATIONS, HIS PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT THAILAND WOULD GO TO GENEVA LOOKING FAVORABLY ON THE COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED BY THE US.

3. COMMENT: TEAM BELIEVES THAT SUTHEE AND MRS. ORANUTT ARE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD EXPRESSED US POSITION (AND IMPLICIT REQUEST FOR THAI SUPPORT) AND THAT UNLESS EC POSITION IN OCTOBER NEGOTIATIONS IS UNBENDING, RTG MAY ULTIMATELY FIND IT POSSIBLE TO VOTE FOR RENEWAL WITHOUT CHANGE. FYI, EC POSITION MAY WELL NOT BE FLEXIBLE AND PROBABLY WILL NOT BE GENEROUS; THESE POSSIBILITIES HAVE BEEN MADE CLEAR TO THAIS BY EC BY RECENT UNILATERAL ACTION EXPANDING UVND FRENCH RESIDUAL RESTRAINTS TO INCLUDE MAN MADE FIBER TEXTILES AS WELL AS COTTON TEXTILES.

4. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH SUTHEE, RTG SUPPORT FOR A NO-CHANGE EXTENSION BY MFA WAS ENCOURAGED. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT IF THEY FELT FAVORABLY INCLINED, AS THEY APPEARED TO BE, TO THE JUST CONCLUDED US-THAI BILATERAL REVISIONS, THEY MIGHT WISH TO USE THIS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PROMPT THE EC TOWARD MORE LIBERAL TREATMENT OF THAILAND. SUTHEE RESPONDED THAT IT WAS HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT THEY WOULD SO. END FYI.  
SAXBE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, AGREEMENTS, TEXTILES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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